



JIM TURP

The third member of the Turp family to join the Hall, Jim Turp has had a lifelong association with Mercer County soccer as a player, youth coach, administrator, and volunteer that continues today. Following in the footsteps of his father and uncle, tonight we welcome Jim Turp into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame, Class of 2024.

A graduate of the Hightstown YMCA and East Windsor PAL soccer programs, Jim entered into a storied soccer tradition in Hightstown at a young age. Spending his high school years at the Peddie School, he was a three-year starter for the Falcons. Following the example of many local players, he headed to West Virginia to play at NAIA powerhouse West Virginia Wesleyan for a season before moving on to Western New York to play at St. Bonaventure University, where, for 42 years, he has held the Bonnie's single season wins record for goalkeepers with 12 while helping the team to one of their best seasons in the program's history.

Jim's on-the-field story continued after returning from college as he played for a number of strong amateur sides, including the inaugural undefeated year of the Cranbury Kickers under legendary Hall member Steve Collis, the German-American Kickers, a Hibernian team that captured the State and Eastern Regional Over 30's titles under HOF coach Rich Garten, and , for nearly 30 years, with the Cranbury Over 40's and 50's men's programs in the Mercer Men's and Garden State Friendship Leagues.

He eventually brought his years of experience to the sideline, coaching both boys and girls from U8 to U19 over the years in the East Windsor PAL, Cranbury Soccer Club, West Windsor-Plainsboro, and Match Fit Academy programs. This past year, Jim was brought into the Mooch Soccer program by Charlie Inverso, where he led many of these players at the 11-13 age level to the Trenton Recreational Soccer League fall season championship. He was also the Director of Travel Soccer for the Cranbury Soccer Club for ten years.

Jim has been lucky enough to, with his good friend Rich Grubb, help to organize the annual "Fame On Main" Over 50's and Over 60's men's summer tournaments in Cranbury, which has drawn teams from the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states for over 12 years. Additionally, he has been a proud member of the executive committee for the Mercer County Soccer HOF for 20 years, producing the program book and writing the inductee's biographies for the last 15 years.

A lifelong advocate of soccer at all levels in the Mercer County area, Jim continues to give back to the game that has brought him so much over the years. Humbled to join his father and uncle, as well as many of his former teammates, we are happy to induct Jim Turp into the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame, Class of 2024